

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9-17, 20-26, 28-30, and 68-71 are pending in this application, with Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9-17, 20-26, 28-30 having been allowed in a Notice of Allowance dated February 9, 2004. Claims 68-71 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-14, 21-24, 28, and 30 have been amended as to matters of form only and those amendments do not narrow the scope of any of the claims. Claims 1, 21, and 68 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants submit that independent Claim 68, and its dependent claims, are allowable at least because Claim 68 corresponds to allowed Claims 1 and 21.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 42,476

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY_MAIN 427078v1